

# Pragmatic Features of Interrogative Sentences in the Uzbek Language

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**Abstract:** In this article, we have analysed linguistic factors alone are not enough for the speech realization of language units and the realization of the speech goal. In most cases, pragmatic factors interact with grammatical and lexical means. Pragmatic factors are of great importance in the realization of most of the thoughts expressed by interrogative sentences, in bringing the intended goal of the speaker to the listener. This linguistic phenomenon is observed both in ordinary interrogative sentences and in rhetorical interrogative sentences.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

For the speech to realize language units and the speech objective, linguistic variables alone are insufficient. Most of the time, grammatical and lexical tools interact with pragmatic aspects. When most ideas stated by interrogative phrases are realized, pragmatic variables play a crucial role in conveying the speaker's intended meaning to the listener. Both common interrogative phrases and rhetorical interrogative sentences exhibit this language phenomenon.

Until the middle of the last century, the term pragmatics was used in various fields of science, including sociology, psychology, philosophy, and semiotics. As a result, the scope covered by this term became very wide and multifaceted. Therefore, when examining the issue of the emergence and development of pragmatics specific to linguistics, it is necessary to determine its relation to linguistics and the scope of its tasks. In this regard, the following comments of Y. G. Kotorova are relevant: "The relationship between pragmatics and linguistics can be interpreted in three ways: 1) pragmatics is a separate field closely related to linguistics; 2) pragmatics is a part of linguistics; 3) pragmatics is a phenomenon related to a specific part of linguistics" (Kotorova, E. G, 2019). The term pragmatics "was used even before Socrates, and later philosophers such as

J. Locke and E. Kant adopted it from Aristotle" (Safarov, Sh. (2008). Pragmatics in science was formed in the 70s of the 19th century in America, and Ch. Peirce and Ch. Morris contributed to its introduction into science.

## 2 RESULTS

Pragmatics is defined in the "National Encyclopedia of Uzbekistan" as follows: "Pragmatics is manifested through the speech process, which encompasses the social activity of a person, through a specific communication situation. Linguistic pragmatics does not have a clear form or appearance; its scope includes many issues related to the speaking subject, the addressee, and their communication-intervention situation" (Uzbekistan National Encyclopedia., 2004). Thus, pragmatics was formed as a new practical branch of linguistics (Hakimov, M.,2001), which studies the problems of language related to the speech process, speech situation, and the communicative intention of speech participants. In this regard, it is appropriate to cite the following comments of M. Ernazarova, who compared linguistic pragmatics and pragmalinguistics and distinguished their common and different aspects: "The object of study of any paradigm of linguistics, whether it is traditional or modern, is language. As long as pragmatic linguistics

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or linguistic pragmatics is considered as a branch of linguistics, its object of study should be sought in a system consisting of linguistic unity and structure" (Ernazarova, M.,2018).

It is understood that pragmatics is directly related to the communication process. Some features of the communication system have been studied in Uzbek linguistics. In particular, S. Mominov studied the social characteristics of communication behavior, which is a component of the communication system or one of its edges (Mominov, S.,2000). Professors Sh. Safarov and G. Toirova studied that this system is momentary, i.e. instantaneous, and researched some of its elements (Safarov, Sh.,2008). In general, Sh. Safarov's following comments about the communication system and the role of pragmatics in it are relevant: "... if we exclude the effect of speech act from the scope of pragmalinguistic analysis, then don't we make the communication system blunt?! Communication is done in order to influence the speaker, to encourage him to act in response! The purpose of speech communication is two-level, i.e. information exchange and communicative pragmatic purpose are realized in the speech act. In the first, the purpose of the speaker is to convey or receive information" (Safarov, Sh.,2008).

Since pragmatics is directly related to the communication system, the place of interrogative sentences among the types of speech according to the purpose of expression is very important in the emergence of speech intention. After all, with the help of interrogative sentences, the speaker not only receives the information he is interested in from the listener but also can express goals such as objections, suggestions, and commands in cooperation with non-linguistic factors. Interrogative sentences are defined in textbooks and manuals as follows: "An interrogative sentence expressing an appeal to know something unknown" (Khojiev, A., 2001). In this definition, it can be understood that interrogative sentences are included in the speech in order to obtain new information of interest to the speaker from the listener. In fact, even in such places, non-linguistic tools cooperate with linguistic tools. That is, the speaker chooses words suitable for the speech situation and the age, gender, and mental state of the listener to form an interrogative sentence. The following points can be made about the further division of interrogative sentences into types: "According to their main feature (task), interrogative sentences are divided into two types: 1) interrogative sentences that require an answer or pure so more words; 2) interrogative sentences or rhetorical interrogatives that do not require an answer" [8:104].

In fact, these two types of interrogative sentences are used in two different speech situations. Below, we will try to analyse the role of non-linguistic (pragmatic) tools in expressing the lexical-grammatical nature of interrogative sentences, in realizing the function of speech intention. For example, in the following interrogative sentences used in the story "The Thief" by Abdulla Qahhor, the main goal is not to get an answer from the listener on the matter of interest to the speaker, of course:

Yo'qolmasdan ilgari bormidi? Qanaqa ho'kiz edi? (Did it exist before it disappeared? What kind of ox was it?)

Ola ho'kiz... (particoloured ox..)

Yaxshi ho'kizmidi yo yomon ho'kizmidi? Was it a good ox or a bad one?

Qo'sh mahali... (During plowing)

Yaxshi ho'kiz birov yetaklasa, keta beradimi? (Will a good ox follow if someone leads it?)

Bisotimda hech narsa yo'q... (Nothing I had except it)

O'zi qaytib kelmasmikan?.. Birov olib ketsa, qaytib kela ber, deb qo'yilmagan ekan-da! Nega yig'lanadi? A? Yig'lanmasin! (Won't you come back by yourself?... Even though it wasn't written that if someone takes you, come back! Why are you crying? Don't cry!)

If the reader who is not familiar with the text of the story is presented with the above-mentioned passage for reading, the questioning of Grandfather Kain gives the impression that the person asking him does not have the ability to deal. But for the reader who is aware of the worldview of the Uzbek people at the time the story was written, the attitude of officials and ordinary people, "Did it exist before it disappeared?", "Was it a good ox or a bad ox?", "A good ox is led by someone." , will he go?", "I won't come back by myself?", "Why is he crying?" such questions are surprising and not unusual. It should be considered normal for that time that the officials consider themselves superior to the common people and talk with them openly. When asking these questions, Amin is not expecting an answer to any of them and is not interested in the answers given. It is only intended to pretend that he is seriously interested in the matter and thereby extort something as a bribe from Grandfather Kain. The above-mentioned pragmatic factors are leading in the interrogative sentences that express questions without linguistic purpose. It is understood that in some types of interrogative sentences, non-linguistic factors may be more important for speech intention than linguistic factors.

The influence of pragmatic factors can also be felt in the grammatical means used in the sentence. For example, in the last interrogative sentence in the above-mentioned passage, Amin Kabul, embodied as an official in the text of the story, should ask a question in the form of an address to Grandpa. It is known that the meaning of respect can be expressed through the Uzbek person-number forms, depending on the speech situation: "The person-number forms of the verb are not used only in their meanings, but instead can be used in other meanings... The plural form of the second person, while expressing the meaning of referring to several persons, is used for the unity of the second person and expresses the meaning of respect or contempt for a person" [9:350]. Based on his social status, Amin cannot appreciate Grandfather Kain, but he cannot appreciate the great age difference. Therefore, the ingenious creator Abdulla Qahhor finds an unexpected solution to the problem. Amin said to Grandfather Qabul, "Why is he crying?" addressed in the form The intended purpose of this interrogative sentence comes out with the help of the inappropriate use of the passive participle. In this interrogative sentence, I am sure that Grandfather Kain did not believe him or not. As a result, the speech goal of the speaker was revealed thanks to the introduction of the "extra" grammatical form and the cooperation of pragmatic factors.

### 3 DISCUSSION AND TECHNOLOGY

In general, textbooks and manuals provide information about the speech realization of interrogative sentences under the influence of pragmatic factors. This is especially evident in rhetorical interrogative sentences. For example, "a rhetorical question does not require an answer, the answer is hidden in itself and is known to everyone. A rhetorical interrogative sentence can express the following meanings: 1) affirmation: What is missing in this country?; 2) negation: Do you go to the cure for the calamity and sorrow that arose from yourself?; 3) surprise: What is this?!; 4) anxiety: Won't you leave me?; 5) anger: What is the goal, the goal?; 6) suspicion: Maybe the cotton was not opened well?; 7) strong excitement: Shall we crush to Tokay, father? [10:218]. In all of the cited examples, the inevitability of cooperation of pragmatic factors is felt. Because relations such as denial, anxiety, suspicion, anger, and strong excitement cannot arise without the cooperation of non-verbal factors. Pragmatic factors such as a specific speech situation and the appropriate

mood of the dialogue participants are required for the realization of these relations.

Pure interrogative sentences can also be mixed with pragmatic factors depending on the speech situation. For example, the hero of Abdulla Qahhor's story "The Patient" asks Abduganiboy Sotiboldi the following questions when he comes to ask for a loan to treat his wife:

"Did you bring anything to Devonai Bahavuddin?" What about Gavsulazam?

These interrogative sentences are, in fact, pure interrogative sentences that require an answer from the listener. But in this text, the interrogative sentence is used to describe the artistic image of Abduganiboy, who is depicted as a stingy, heretical rich man. In order not to pay a hard-working worker who works for a small child, the purpose of asking whether he has conducted activities that are useless for the patient, but dry the poor man's lips, is to pretend to feel sorry for the patient, to distract Sotiboldi from the main goal (rich receiving money) was a distraction. Without the cooperation of pragmatic tools, the creator would not have achieved the above speech intention with the help of interrogative sentences alone.

It is understood that the question is used not only for the purpose of obtaining new information from the listener in the speech process. Interrogative sentences also serve the highest purpose of language use - "to clearly and fluently convey one's thoughts to the listener in oral or written form." In other words, by means of interrogative sentences, the speaker not only receives information from the listener, but also conveys new information to him. For example, "What time is it?" through an interrogative sentence, at first glance, it seems that only the speaker is interested in what time it is at the same time. At the same time, this interrogative sentence contains additional information that the time is important for the speaker (the person asking the question) and that the listener has the opportunity to know what time it is. This additional information is expressed using pragmatic factors.

### 4 CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, the integration of pragmatic factors in the use of interrogative sentences highlights the complexity and depth of human communication. As the article elucidates, merely relying on grammatical and lexical tools is insufficient for fully realizing the speaker's intent. Pragmatic aspects, which involve understanding the context, the relationship between

interlocutors, and the specific communication situation, play a crucial role. This is particularly evident in the use of rhetorical interrogatives, where the primary goal is not to obtain information but to express a range of emotions and intentions, such as affirmation, negation, surprise, or sarcasm.

Moreover, the study of pragmatics within linguistics, as exemplified by the works of various scholars and the provided examples, underscores its significance in understanding the dynamics of speech acts. Interrogative sentences, influenced by non-linguistic factors such as social context and speaker-listener relationships, demonstrate the intricate ways in which language operates beyond mere words. This comprehensive approach to analysing speech intention through pragmatics not only enriches our understanding of language use but also emphasizes the essential role of context in effective communication.

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